England — Parliament
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A MESSAGE FROM Both HOUSES of PARLIAMENT *VNTO* His MAJESTIE, Concerning the PRINCE His SON.

With the ANSWER of his Majestie thereunto.

Together with His Majesties Answer to the desire of both Houses concerning the MILITIA.

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24. Febr. 1641.

A Message from both Houses of Parliament unto his Majestie, concerning the Prince, His SON.

THe Lords and Commons in Parliament humbly desire His Majestie, That the Prince may not be removed from *Hampton Court*; And that for these ensuing Reasons.

I.

They conceive his Maiestie had Resolved that the Prince should stay at *Hampton Court* untill his Majesties Return.

II.

That the Lord Marquesse *Hertford*, appointed by his Maiestie to be Governour of the Prince, and approved of, and commanded by the Parliament to give his personall attendance on the Prince, Is now so indisposed in his health, that he is not able to attend the Prince to any other place.

III.

That the Prince his Removall at this time from *Hampton Court*, may be a cause to promote Iealousies and Fears in the hearts of his Maiesties good Subiects, which they conceive very necessary to avoid.

Die Jovis 24. Febr. 1641.

ORdered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, that the Lord Howard *of* Char*shall attend upon the King, and present these Reasons unto his Majestie.*

Io. Browne Cler. Parliament.

His Majesties Answer to the Reasons Hee Received by way of Message from both Houses *concerning the* PRINCE *his* SON.

THat His Majesty intended at his remove from *Hampton Court* with His Royall Consort the Queen, towards *Dover*, That the Prince His Son should stay at *Hampton-Court*, till His Majesty returned to some of His Houses: and thereupon as soon as His Majesty resolved upon a certain day to be at *Greenwich*, He commanded that his Son should attend him there, which was no way contrary to his former Intention.

2. That His Majesty was very sorry to hear of the Indisposition of the Marquesse *Hertford*, being the Person upon whom He principally relies for the Care of his dearest Son; But if that indisposition should have lasted, His Majesty could no wayes think fit, that his want of health should have hindred the Prince from waiting upon His Majesty, according to His Command, and therefore would have bin much offended if the Prince had failed of meeting His Majesty, according to his appointment.

3. To the Fears and Jealousies, His Majesty knowes not what Answer to give, not being able to imagine from what grounds they proceed. But if any Information have bin given to that purpose, His Majesty much desires that the same may be examined to the bottome, and then Hee hopes that these Fears and Iealousies will be hereafter continued onely with Reverence to His Majesties Rights and Honour

His Majesties Answer to both Houses, conning the *Militia*.

HIS Majesty having with his best care and understanding perused and considered that which was sent him from both Houses for the Ordering of the *Militia*, presented unto him to be made an Ordinance of Parliament, by the giving of his Royall assent; as he can by no means doe it, for the Reasons hereafter mentioned, so hee doth not conceive himself oblieged by any promise made in His Answer of the second of this month, to the Petition to both Houses to yeeld to the same.

His Majesty finds great cause to except against the Preface or Introduction to that Order, which confesseth a most dangerous and desperate Designe upon the *House* of Commons, of late, supposed to be an effect of the bloudy Counsels of Papists, and other ill-affected persons; by which many may understand (looking upon other printed papers to that purpose) his comming in Person to the House of Commons, on the fourth day of January, which begot so unhappy a misunderstanding between Him and His People: And for that, though He beleeves it, upon the Information since given Him, to bee an apparent breach of their Priviledge, and hath offered, and is ready to repair the same for the future, by any Act shall be desired of His Majesty; Yet Hee must declare and require to be beleeved, That Hee had no other Design upon that House, or any Member of it, then to require (as He did) the persons of those five Gentlemen His Majesty had the day before accused of High Treason.

And to declare, that hee meant to proceed against them legally, and speedily; upon which He beleeved that House would have delivered them up: And his Majesty cals the Almighty God to witnesse, that He was so far from any intention or thought of force or violence, although that House had not delivered them according to his Demand, or in any Case whatsoever, That hee gave those his Servants and others (who then waited on his Majesty) expresse Charge and Command, that they should give no offence to any Man; Nay if they received any provocation or injury, that they should bear it without Return. And his Majesty neither saw or knew that any person of his Train had any other weapons, but his Pensioners and Guard, those with which they usually attend His Person to Parliament, and the other Gentlemen Swords, And therefore his Majesty doubts not, but his Parliament will bee so regardfull of his honour herein, that he shall not undergo any imputation by the rash or indiscreet expressions of any young men then in his Train, or by any desperate words uttered by others, who might mingle with them without his consent or approbation.

For the persons nominated to bee Lieutenants of the severall Counties of *England and Wales*, his Majesty is contented to allow that Recommendation, onely concerning the City of *London*, and such other Corporations, as by ancient Charters have granted unto them the power of the *Militia*, his Majesty doth not conceive that it can stand with Iustice or Policy to alter their Government in that particular: And His Maiestie is willing forthwith to grant every of them

them (that of *London* and those other Corporations excepted) such Commissions as He hath done this Parliament to some Lord Lieutenants by your advice. But if that power be not thought enough, but that more shall be thought fit to be granted to these persons named, then by the Law is in the Crown it self, his Majesty holds it reasonable, that the same be by some law first vested in him, with power to transfer it to these persons which he will willingly doe; And what ever that power shall be, to avoid all future doubts and questions, his Majesty desires it may be digested into an Act of Parliament rather then an Ordinance, so that all his loving Subjects may thereby particularly know, both what they are to do and what they are to suffer for their neglect, that there bee the least Latitude for his good Subjects to suffer under any arbitrary power whatsoever.

As to the time desired for the continuance of the powers to be granted, His Majesty giveth this Answer, That hee cannot consent to devest himself of the just power which God and the laws of this Kingdome have placed in him for the defence of his people, and to put it into the hands of others for any indefinite time. And since the ground of this request from his Parliament was to secure their present fears and jealousies, that they might with safety apply themselves to the matter of his Message of the 20 of Ian. His Majesty hopeth that his grace to them since that time in yeelding to so many of their desires, and in agreeing to the persons recommended to him by his Parliament, and the power before expressed to be placed in them, will wholly dispell those Fears and

Jealousies

Iealouſies, and aſſureth them that as his Maieſtie hath now applied this unlawfull remedie to their doubts, ſo (if there ſhall be cauſe) He will continue the ſame to ſuch time as ſhall be agreeable to the ſame care *He* now expreſſeth towards them.

And in this Anſwer, his Maieſtie is ſo far from receding from any thing *He* promiſed, or intended to grant in *His* Anſwer to the former Petition, that *His* Maieſtie hath hereby conſented to all was then asked of *Him* by that Petition concerning the *Militia* of the Kingdome (except that of *London*, and thoſe other Corporations) which was to put the ſame into the hands of ſuch perſons as ſhould be recommended unto *Him* by both Houſes of Parliament: And his Majeſtie doubts not, but the Parliament, upon well weighing the particulars of this *His* Anſwer, will finde the ſame more ſatisfactorie to their ends, and the peace and welfare of all *His* good Subiects, then the way propoſed by this intended Ordinance, to which, for theſe Reaſons, *His* Maieſtie cannot conſent.

And whereas his Maieſtie obſerves by the Petition of both Houſes, preſented unto him by the Earl of *Portland*, Sir *Thomas Heal*, and Sir *William Savile*, That in ſome places, ſome perſons begin already to intermeddle of themſelves with the *Militia*, His Maieſtie expecteth that *His* Parliament ſhould examine the particulars thereof, it being a matter of high Concernment, and very great Conſequence.

And his Maieſtie requireth, that if it ſhall appear to *His* Parliament, that any perſons whatſoever have preſumed to command the *Militia* without lawfull Authority, they may be proceeded againſt according to Law.

FINIS.